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DIRNSA ATTN: COMMAND CENTER

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

CINCLANT

DIR USIA (EYES ONLY MR. C. ROWAN) VIA STATE

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[REDACTED]

CIA/OCI 10687

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM
SITUATION IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

15(c)
34(b)(1)

REPORT 197 SUMMARY OF SITUATION ON FROM 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

1. ANTONIO IMBERT, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION, ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT EIGHT TOP-RANKING MILITARY OFFICERS - WITH THE EXCEPTION OF GENERAL ELIAS WESSIN Y WESSIN-- HAD BEEN SEPERATED FROM THEIR COMMANDS "FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTRY." THE OFFICERS REMOVED FROM THEIR JOBS ~~WERE~~ WERE:
ARMY GENERAL SALVADOR MONTAS AND FELIX HERMIDA, JR., POLICE GENERAL BELISARIO PEGUERO, AIR FORCE GENERAL MIGUEL ATILA LUNA, NAVY COMMODORE JULIO RIB SANTAMARIA, AND ARMY COLONEL MARCOS RIVERA CUESTA, MANUEL GARCIA URBAEZ, AND RENATO HUNGRIA MOREL. ALL BUT GARCIA URBAEZ AND HUNGRIA MOREL ARE NOW OUT OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, IMBERT SAID. MOST OF THESE MILITARY OFFICERS HAVE LONG BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH GRAFT AND CORRUPTION AND THEIR REMOVAL SHOULD AID IN REBUILDING MORALE WITHIN THE LOYALIST FORCES AND IMPROVE IMBERT'S PUBLIC IMAGE.
WHEN ASKED IF GENERAL WESSIN WOULD BE REMOVED FROM HIS POST AS COMMANDER OF THE ARMED FORCES TRAINING CENTER, THE JUNTA CHIEF DECLARED ~~THAT~~ THAT THE MATTER HAD NOT BEEN GIVEN CONSIDERATION.

2. IMBERT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT COLONEL JACINTO MARTINEZ ARANA HAD BEEN NAMED THE NEW ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF, THAT GENERAL JUAN DE LOS SANTOS WOULD REMAIN AS AIR FORCE CHIEF AND THAT COMMODORE EMILIO JIMENEZ JIMENEZ WOULD HEAD THE NAVY. COMMODORE FRANCISCO RIVERA CAMINERO OF THE NAVY WAS APPOINTED SECRETARY OF THE ARMED FORCES YESTERDAY.

OK FROM QUICK COPY

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

MAY 2000

1.5(6)
3.4(6)(1)

3. FOUR MEMBERS OF THE DOMINICAN COMMUNIST PARTY MET THIS MORNING IN SANTO DOMINGO TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF LAUNCHING A GENERAL STRIKE. [REDACTED] THE GROUP DECIDED TO AWAIT THE AFTERNOON'S DEVELOPMENTS BEFORE CONTACTING THE REPRESENTATIVES OF LABOR AND PROFESSIONAL GROUPS THROUGH WHOM THEY HOPE TO LAUNCH THE STRIKE. THEY DID NOT PLAN TO CONTACT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES. HOWEVER THE COMMUNISTS WERE DESCRIBED AS PESSIMISTIC OVER THE STRIKE'S CHANCES OF SUCCESS.

THE THREE DOMINICAN COMMUNIST PARTIES [REDACTED] ARE VERY FRIENDLY WITH ONE ANOTHER, [REDACTED] THEIR UNITY IS GREATER THAN THEIR DIFFERENCES, AND [REDACTED] THEY ARE WELL ORGANIZED AND ARE LENDING A VERY STRONG HAND TO THE "REVOLUTION LED BY (BOSCH'S) DOMINICAN REVOLUTIONARY PARTY. THEY ARE THUS IN A POSITION WHERE THEY WILL BE FREE TO ORGANIZE FOR THE MOMENT WHEN THEY CAN TAKE OVER THE MOVEMENT. [REDACTED] THE DOMINICAN POPULAR MOVEMENT--A MILITANT MARXIST-LENINIST PARTY-- [REDACTED] DOES NOT BELIEVE CAAMANO WILL TRY TO BETRAY THE MOVEMENT, SINCE THE PEOPLE ARE ARMED, AND CAAMANO CANNOT ASK THEM TO GIVE UP THEIR ARMS. CAAMANO [REDACTED] IS NOT VERY BRIGHT BUT IS SURROUNDED BY SOME SMART PEOPLE. JOTTIN CURRY, THE REBEL "FOREIGN MINISTER," IS ONE OF THESE; "MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY" ARISTY, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS DESCRIBED AS A "COMPLETE OPPORTUNIST" AND POSSIBLE "AMERICAN AGENT" BUT IS HARMLESS BECAUSE HE KNOWS THAT HE WOULD BE KILLED IF HE DID ANYTHING CONTRARY TO THE REVOLUTION. IF CAAMANO COMES TO POWER AND GOVERNS UNDER THE 1963 BOSCH CONSTITUTION, THE DOMINICAN POPULAR MOVEMENT WILL BE CONTENT TO APPLY ITS "LONG RANGE PLANS FOR COMING TO POWER." IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, THE US CONTINUES TO KEEP TROOPS IN THE COUNTRY, THE ORGANIZATION WILL GO INTO AN ACTIVE GUERRILLA PHASE OF THE REVOLUTION AND SKIP THE USUAL FIRST PHASE; WEAPONS HAVE BEEN SAFELY HIDDEN AND ARE NOT TO BE SURRENDERED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

THE PRO-CASTRO FOURTEENTH OF JUNE POLITICAL GROUP [REDACTED] WOULD NOT TAKE PART IN THE CAAMANO "GOVERNMENT," EVEN IF ASKED, BUT WOULD TAKE AN ATTITUDE OF "CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM." [REDACTED] DESCRIBED HIS PARTY AS AN "ECLECTIC PARTY" CONTAINING MARXISTS, LIBERALS, AND EVEN RIGHTISTS UNITED ON THE THEME OF NATIONALISM.

1.5(6)
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ADDENDUM TO DOMINICAN SITREP

(REPORT NUMBER 197 - AS OF 5:32 PM EDT)

4. A TRUSTED NEWS SOURCE TOLD AMERICAN OFFICIALS THAT AS OF NOON TODAY, HECTOR ARISTY, THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY IN THE CAAMANO REGIME, IS "NO LONGER A SMOOTH APPLE BUT A SCARED KID." THE NEWSMAN BELIEVES ARISTY NOW "WANTS OUT." AMBASSADOR BENNETT REPORTED EARLIER THIS MORNING THAT ARISTY WAS NO LONGER PLAYING A PROMINENT A ROLE AT CAAMANO'S HEADQUARTERS AS HE HAD IN RECENT DAYS AND THAT CONTROL SEEMED TO HAVE MOVED BEHIND HIM TO OTHERS.

5. AMBASSADOR BENNETT REPORTS THAT REBEL CONTROLLED "RADIO SANTO DOMINGO" CONTINUES TO BE A MAJOR PUBLIC RELATIONS PROBLEM AND EXTREMELY DAMAGING TO THE LOYALIST CAUSE. HE DESCRIBES IT AS THE REBELS' CHIEF WEAPON. JAMMING EFFORTS AGAINST THE STATION EVIDENTLY WERE SUCCESSFUL FOR A SHORT TIME, YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, BUT THE REBELS SUCCESSFULLY CHANGED THE STATION'S TRANSMITTING FREQUENCY AND SUBSEQUENT JAMMING EFFORTS WERE INEFFECTIVE. ADDITIONAL JAMMING EQUIPMENT WAS EXPECTED TO BE BROUGHT INTO PLAY TODAY, BUT IF IT SHOULD FAIL, ALL POSSIBILITIES OF JAMMING WOULD THEN BE EXHAUSTED.

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